

# THE ECONOMIC CLUB

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O F W A S H I N G T O N, D. C.

**Excerpts from the Signature Event featuring Michael Milken,  
Chairman, Milken Institute**

**October 8, 2014**

There's three ways to build human capital. One is education — lifelong education. Two is immigration ... and three is health — extending the length and quality.

America's preoccupation at the federal level with housing and investment over the last 120 years ... has led to government policies and incentives that have encouraged a misallocation of assets and resources to larger houses and cars with more horsepower instead of investments in education, medical research, energy, and retirement security. ... So it's only a logical outcome that the middle class in America has altered their spending patterns where more than 50 percent of the money that the middle class spends is on housing and transportation and only 2 percent is on the tutoring and education of their children.

... more than 50 percent of all economic growth in the last 200 years can be traced either to medical research or health. ... We've solved many life-threatening diseases, and we have solutions today for 500-600 life-threatening diseases out of, maybe, 7,000. We are entering this Golden Age of medicine with precision medicine and immunology and stem cells and the promise of this enormous investment that the American people have made.